

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): An immobilization walker comprising:

an outer sole ~~with a back end~~;

a rigid immobilization plate including:

a bottom portion attached to a top of the outer sole, the bottom portion having a back end, and

a back portion formed by a back part that extends up from the back end of the outer sole bottom portion and side parts that extend up from sides of the bottom portion, the back part being integrally formed with the side parts; and

~~a bottom portion attached to the top of the outer sole; and~~

a boot portion attached to the rigid immobilization plate;

wherein the rigid immobilization plate is designed to prevent movement in a patient's ankle and the boot portion is designed to fit around the patient's foot and lower leg and the boot portion is designed to fit around a patient's foot and lower leg.

2. (original): The immobilization walker of claim 1, wherein the boot portion has at least one ventilation port.

3. (original): The immobilization walker of claim 2, wherein the ventilation port is raised.

4. (original): The immobilization walker of claim 1, wherein the rigid immobilization plate has at least one ventilation port.

5. (original): The immobilization walker of claim 4, wherein the ventilation port is raised.

6. (original): The immobilization walker of claim 1, wherein a liner is fixed inside the boot portion.

7. (original): The immobilization walker of claim 6, wherein the liner is made of a soft, breathable material.

8. (original): The immobilization walker of claim 1, wherein the boot portion is made of a semi-flexible material.

9. (original): The immobilization walker of claim 8, wherein the semi-flexible material is polyurethane.

10. (original): The immobilization walker of claim 1, wherein the boot portion is located inside the immobilization plate.

11. (currently amended): An immobilization walker comprising:

an outer sole ~~with a back end~~;

a rigid immobilization plate including:

a bottom portion attached to the top of the outer sole, wherein the bottom portion has a top,

a back portion formed by a back part that extends up from the back end of the outer sole bottom portion and side parts that extend up from sides of the bottom portion, the back part being integrally formed with the side parts; and

~~a bottom portion attached to the top of the outer sole, wherein the bottom portion has a top;~~

a boot portion attached to the top of the bottom portion of the rigid immobilization plate;

a lower removable insole made of a material with a density; and

an upper removable insole made of a material with a softer density than the lower insole;

wherein the rigid immobilization plate is designed to prevent movement in a patient's ankle and the boot portion is designed to fit around the patient's foot and lower leg, and

the lower removable insole is located on top of the boot portion, and the upper removable insole is located on top of the lower removable insole.

12. (original): The immobilization walker of claim 11, wherein the outer sole comprises a curved heel portion, a flat central bottom surface portion, and a curved toe portion.

13. (original): The immobilization walker of claim 11, wherein the boot portion further comprises a circumferential counter for providing a pocket for the removable insoles.

14. (original): The immobilization walker of claim 11, wherein the boot portion includes a foot portion that is attached to the top of the bottom portion of the rigid immobilization plate;
and

wherein a combined thickness of the removable insoles, the foot portion, the bottom portion of the rigid immobilization plate, and the outer sole is approximately equal to a thickness of a conventional boot.

15. (original): The immobilization walker of claim 11, wherein at least one of the boot portion and the rigid immobilization plate has at least one raised ventilation port.

16. (original): The immobilization walker of claim 11, wherein a liner is fixed inside the boot portion.

Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
Serial No. 09/985,923
Sughrue Ref: A7971

17. (original): The immobilization walker of claim 16, wherein the liner is made of a soft, breathable material.

18. (original): The immobilization walker of claim 11, wherein the boot portion is made of a semi-flexible material.

19. (currently amended): An immobilization walker comprising:
an outer sole ~~with a back end~~;
a rigid immobilization plate including:
a bottom portion attached to a top of the outer sole,
a back portion formed by a back part that extends up from the back end of the
~~outer sole~~ bottom portion and side parts that that extend up from sides of the bottom
portion, the back part being integrally formed with the side parts; and
~~a bottom portion attached to the top of the outer sole,~~
a boot portion attached to the rigid immobilization plate, wherein the boot portion has a
first side separated by an open front from a second side;
a strap attached to boot portion on the first side of the boot portion,
a means for attaching the strap ~~attached to~~ the second side of the boot portion;
wherein the rigid immobilization plate is designed to prevent movement in a patient's
ankle,
the boot portion is designed to fit around the patient's foot and lower leg,

Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
Serial No. 09/985,923
Sughrue Ref: A7971

the means for attaching the strap has an attaching lock portion,
the strap spans the open front, and
the strap is attached to the means for attaching the strap and is tightened to provide
compression to the patient's at least one of ankle, foot, and lower leg.

20. (original): The immobilization walker of claim 19, further comprising a means for
tightening the strap, wherein the means for tightening the strap provides the tightening of the
strap.

21. (original): The immobilization walker of claim 20, wherein the means for tightening
the strap has a lock portion.

22. (original): The immobilization walker of claim 21, wherein the means for tightening
the strap is attached to the second side of the boot portion.

23. (original): The immobilization walker of claim 22, wherein the means for tightening
the strap is a first buckle.

24. (original): The immobilization walker of claim 23, wherein the means for attaching
the strap is a second buckle.

Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
Serial No. 09/985,923
Sughrue Ref: A7971

25. (original): The immobilization walker of claim 24, further comprising a strap guide attached to the second side of the boot portion, wherein the strap guide causes a part of the strap to curve around the boot portion.

26. (original): The immobilization walker of claim 19, wherein the means for attaching the strap provides the tightening of the strap.

27. (original): The immobilization walker of claim 25, wherein the means for attaching the strap is a buckle.

28. (original): The immobilization walker of claim 26, further comprising a strap guide attached to the second side of the boot portion, wherein the strap guide causes a part of the strap that is not tightened to curve around the boot portion.